

ATTACHMENT - CLAIMS LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A mould for preparing of a wind turbine blade, a shell for a wind turbine blade or a large-member intended to form part of a wind turbine blade, comprising:

- an air-drainage system,
- an active mould surface,
- an air-permeable surface member, through which ~~air-permeable surface member, air may be~~ is transported between the active mould surface and the air-drainage system, wherein the air-permeable surface member forms substantially the entire active mould surface, and
- a support structure arranged to support the air-drainage system and the air-permeable surface member, wherein the support structure provides for a major part of the load-bearing ability of the mould, and
- an airtight structure formed by at least one of said support structure forming an entire surface, which is substantially airtight and/or said air-drainage system being substantially airtight except towards said air-permeable surface member and one or more openings to a pressure control system.

2. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-drainage system comprises a network for transport of air, ~~preferably the network follows the active mould surface.~~

3. (currently amended) A mould according to claim ~~4~~ 2, wherein the air-drainage system comprises islands of solid material, the space between which islands is comprised by the network for transport of air, ~~preferably the space between the islands forms the two-dimensional network for transport of air.~~

4. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the islands has a cross section substantially resembling a geometrical shape, such as a circle, a triangle, a quadrangle or another polygon, ~~preferably most or all of the islands have a cross section substantially resembling a geometrical shape, such as a circle, a triangle, a quadrangle or another polygon.~~
5. (previously presented) A mould according to claim 3, wherein at least two of the islands are connected by a connector and the height of said connector is smaller than the height of the islands.
6. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 2, wherein the network of the air-drainage system comprises channels for transport of air.
7. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 6, wherein the cross section of most of the channels for transport of air is greater than 1 mm^2 , ~~preferably greater than 4 mm^2 , more preferably greater than 9 mm^2 .~~
8. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 6, wherein some of the neighboring channels for transport of air are parallel, and wherein the distance between at least some of the parallel neighbouring channels ~~for transport of air is between 0.4 cm to 20 cm, preferably between 0.5 cm to 5 cm, such as about 1 to 2 cm.~~
9. (currently amended) A mould according to claim ~~4~~ 6, wherein some of the channels for transport of air cross one another at crossings, and wherein the distance between at least some of the crossings of the channels for transport of air is between 0.5 cm to 20 cm, preferably between 0.7 cm to 5 cm, such as about 1 to 2 cm.
10. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-drainage system is at least partially integrated in the support structure, ~~preferably the air-drainage system is fully integrated in the support structure.~~

11. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-drainage system is at least partially integrated in the air-permeable surface member, ~~preferably the air drainage system is fully integrated in the air permeable surface member.~~

12. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-drainage system is positioned between the support structure and the air-permeable surface member, ~~preferably as an independent member.~~

13. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-drainage system is ~~intended to be~~ is substantially airtight except towards the air-permeable surface member and at least one opening to a pressure control system.

14. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein passage structures provide air-permeability through the air-permeable surface member, and the passage structures have openings towards the active mould surface, at least 90% of said openings covering an area corresponding to a circle with a diameter of less than 0,5 mm, ~~preferably between about 10 μ m to 250 μ m, more preferably between 25 μ m to 150 μ m, such as between 50 μ m to 125 μ m.~~

15. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 14, wherein the density of passage structure openings towards the active mould surface is 1 to 1000 pr. cm^2 , ~~preferably the density is 2 to 200 pr. cm^2 , more preferably the density is 5 to 100 pr. cm^2 .~~

16. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 13, wherein at least 90% the passage structures have an average cross-sectional area through the air-permeable surface member corresponding to a diameter of less than 1 mm, ~~preferably less than 0.5 mm, more preferably less than 0.25 mm, such as between 25 μ m to 150 μ m.~~

17. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 13, wherein the air-permeable surface member has an open volume comprising the passage structures of less than 20 vol-%, ~~more preferably an open volume of between 0.01 to 10 vol-% and most preferably 1 to 4 vol-%, such as about 2 vol-%.~~

18. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 13, wherein at least 90% of the passage structures allow for straight transportation routes of air between the active mould surface and the air-drainage system, ~~such as via drilled holes or bores.~~

19. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 13, wherein at least 90% of the passage structures allow for tortuous transportation routes of air between the active mould surface and the air-drainage system, ~~such as via pores in a sintered or cured material or a foamed material.~~

20. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 13, wherein the air-transportation distance through the air-permeable layer between the active mould surface and the air-drainage system is less than 5 mm, ~~preferably less than 3 mm, more preferably between 0.5 to 2.5 mm, such as between 0.75 to 2 mm.~~

21. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable surface member is sufficiently rigid to prevent substantial deformation of the air-permeable surface member into the air-drainage system, ~~preferably the deformation of the air-permeable surface member orthogonal to the active mould surface 12 is less than 2 mm, more preferably less than 1 mm and most preferably less than 0.5 mm.~~

22. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of the air-permeable surface member is heat resistant, ~~preferably said part of the air-permeable surface member is mechanically and chemically stable at the curing temperature of the item to be prepared in the mould, preferably at temperatures up to at~~

~~least 80°C, more preferably at temperatures up to at least 120°C and most preferably at temperatures up to at least 180°C.~~

23. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable surface member comprises a sheet of air-permeable material, ~~preferably the air-permeable surface member consists of said sheet, which is connected to the air-drainage system.~~

24. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable surface member comprises metal and/or plastic;

wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of steel, aluminium and alloys comprising one or more of these;

wherein the plastic is a selected from the group consisting of thermosetting plastic, thermoresistant plastic, fibre-reinforced plastic, ~~such as including~~ resin-deficient fibre-reinforced plastic, ~~preferably comprising~~ carbon fibres and/or glass fibres;

the resin systems ~~preferably comprising~~ one or more systems based on epoxy, polyurethane, polyester and/or vinylester, ~~such as including~~ epoxy novolac.

25. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 24, wherein the air-permeable surface member comprises a foamed material, ~~such as a foamed thermosetting plastic or metal, or a cured, resin-deficient fibre-reinforced thermosetting plastic.~~

26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable surface member is impregnated or coated with a mould-release agent, ~~preferably all the active mould surface is impregnated or coated with the mould-release agent.~~

28. (previously presented) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the support structure itself is a mould.

29. (previously presented) A mould according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable surface member and/or the air-drainage system is secured releasably to the air-drainage system and the support structure, respectively.

30. (canceled)

31. (previously presented) A ~~subassembly-mould~~ according to claim ~~30~~ 1, wherein the air drainage system and the air-permeable surface member form a subassembly, and the subassembly is capable of being plastically deformed to conform to a surface of a support, such as a the support structure, preferably the subassembly comprises a curable material.

32-40. (canceled)

41. (new) A mould according to claim 2, wherein the network follows the active mould surface.

42. (new) A mould according to claim 3, wherein the space between the islands forms a planar network for transport of air.

43. (new) A mould according to claim 4, wherein most or all of the islands have a cross section substantially resembling a geometrical shape, such as a circle, a triangle, a quadrangle or another polygon.

44. (new) A mould according to claim 12, wherein the air-drainage system is as an independent member.

45. (new) A mould according to claim 18, wherein the at least 90% of the passage structures are provided by holes or bores.

46. (new) A mould according to claim 19, wherein the at least 90% of the passage structures are provided by pores in a sintered or cured material or a foamed material.

47. (new) A mould according to claim 21, wherein the substantial deformation of the air-permeable surface member orthogonal to the active mould surface is less than 2 mm.

48. (new) A mould according to claim 22, wherein the at least a part of the air-permeable surface member is mechanically and chemically stable at a curing temperature of the item to be prepared in the mould.

49. (new) A mould according to claim 23, wherein the air-permeable surface member consists of said sheet, which is connected to the air-drainage system.

50. (new) A mould according to claim 27, wherein all the active mould surface is impregnated or coated with the mould-release agent.

51. (new) A mould according to claim 31, wherein the subassembly comprises a curable material.